

U.S. Department of Justice U.S. Attorney's Office Western District of Texas

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CODE RED TASK FORCE ENGAGED IN 2005 RED RIBBON CAMPAIGN CAMPAIGN MARKS 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH OF DEA SPECIAL AGENT ENRIQUE S. "KIKI" CAMARENA

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton, DEA Assistant Special Agent in Charge Joseph M. Arabit and Bexar County Sheriff Ralph Lopez along with the CODE RED Task Force celebrated the 2005 Red Ribbon campaign with the 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders at Kriewald Elementary in San Antonio this afternoon.

"Our message to the children is simple: drugs will destroy your dreams and maybe even your life. Being a kid is hard sometimes, but being a kid hooked on drugs is always a nightmare. Stay away from drugs and anyone who uses or sells them," stated United States Attorney Johnny Sutton.

CODE RED stands for Coalition of Departments Engaged on the Road to Eliminate Drugs. Agencies which comprise the Code Red Task Force include the United States Attorney's Office, Drug Enforcement Administration, Bexar County Sheriff's Office, Texas National Guard and Region 20 Education Service Center. During the last two weeks in October, the CODE RED Task Force will make appearances at 20 elementary schools in San Antonio and surrounding communities.

The CODE RED Task Force was formed to educate elementary school kids on the Red Ribbon concept—why we wear them and what the ribbon symbolizes. The hour-long presentation utilizes music, skits and special effects to get the message across to kids—say "no" to drugs. During the presentation, Task Force members discuss with the children the history of the Red Ribbon Campaign and how it began. They also talk about DEA agent Enrique S. "Kiki" Camarena and the dangers associated with illegal drugs among other things.

"Students throughout the city are committing themselves to living drug-free. The men and women of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) join our law enforcement and prevention partners in supporting the dreams and goals of these children, and in commemorating the ultimate sacrifice that Special Agent Enrique 'Kiki' Camarena made on our behalf," stated DEA Assistant Special Agent in Charge Joseph M. Arabit of the San Antonio District Office.

On February 7, 1985, Enrique Camarena, a husband and father of three children, was kidnapped outside the U.S. Consulate in Guadalajara, Mexico. That was the last time anyone other than his kidnappers would see Kiki Camarena alive. His body was discovered one month later in a shallow grave 70 miles from Michoacan, Mexico. He had been tortured, beaten and brutally murdered.